

# Downtown Milwaukee Streetfront Retail Strategy



Milwaukee BID 21

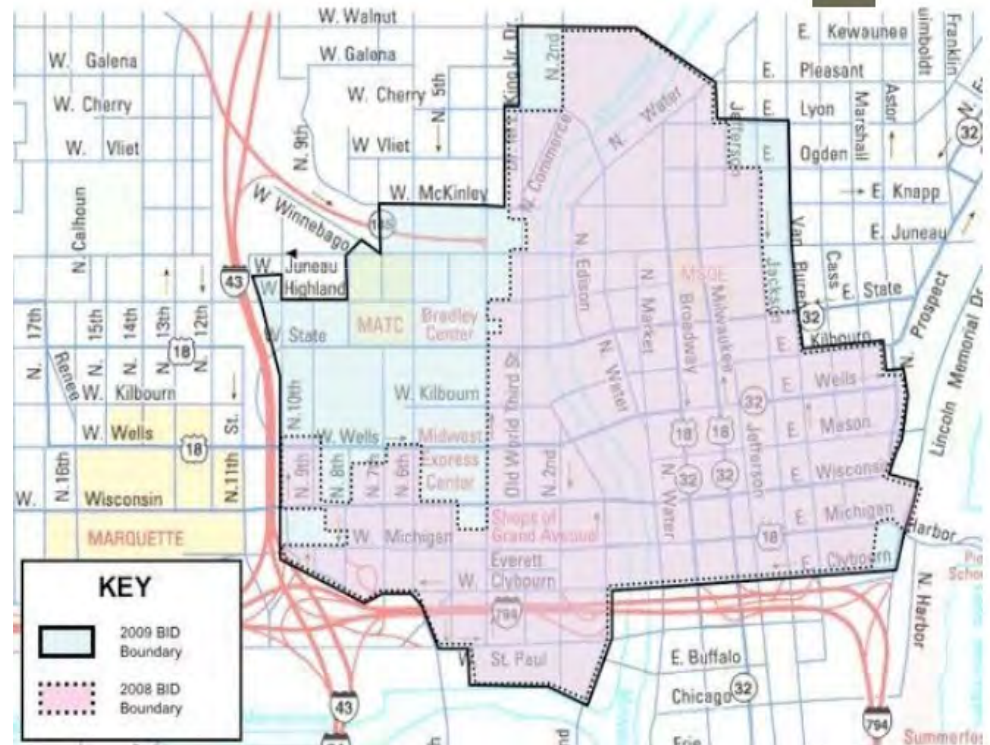
March 2009

# Retail Strategy and Implementation Program

downtown

WORKS

- The Milwaukee BID 21 retained DW to evaluate retail conditions in downtown and create a Retail Strategy and Implementation Program
- The scope includes:
  - BID boundaries
  - Definition and description of important customer markets
  - Development of Merchandise Mix Plan, including appropriate mix of retailers and phasing
  - Commencement of Implementation Program



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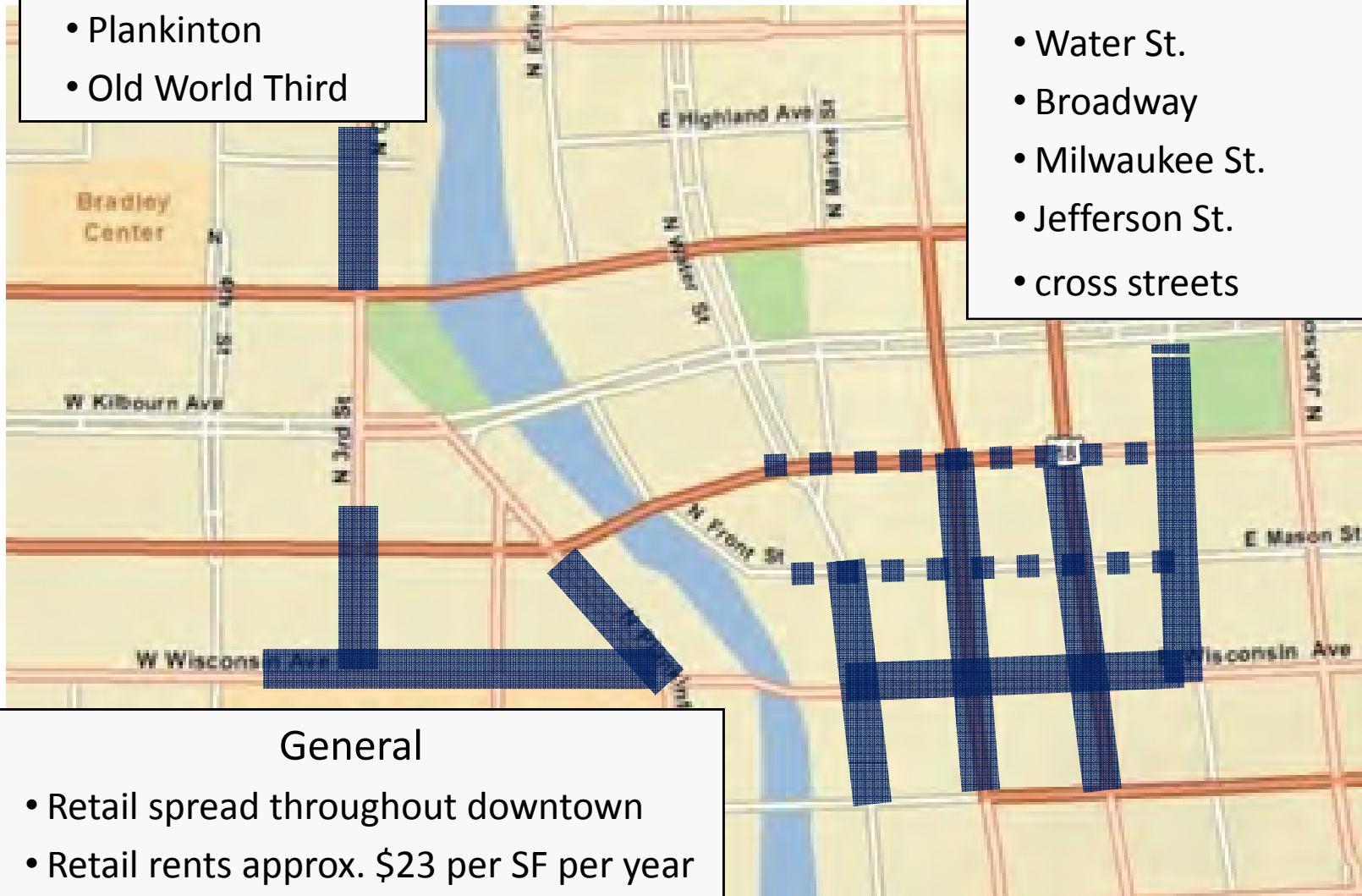
# Downtown Snapshot - RETAIL

downtown

WORKS

- Wisconsin Ave.
- Plankinton
- Old World Third

- Wisconsin Ave.
- Water St.
- Broadway
- Milwaukee St.
- Jefferson St.
- cross streets



## General

- Retail spread throughout downtown
- Retail rents approx. \$23 per SF per year
- Third Ward is successful retail district

# Downtown Snapshot: *The Third Ward*

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- 130 restaurants and retailers
- Successful, independently-owned, unique retailers with select national chains
- It is all about the TENANT MIX
  - Type, quality, and concentration of stores attracts customers
  - Became retail destinations
- “Trained” suburbanites to visit downtown for retail and restaurant needs
- Shown that retailers do want to be:
  - In an urban setting
  - On the street front
- Proven that customers (including suburban) want to experience:
  - Street-oriented retail environment
  - One-of-a-kind retailers
  - A dynamic urban setting

# Downtown Snapshot: Residential & Office

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Residential development has been strong
  - 2,000 new units downtown 2001-2006
  - 3,700 new units including half-mile beyond core
  - Planned areas/projects: Park East, Pabst Brewery, Historic Third Ward, others
  - 1,682 units planned or under construction in downtown
    - Several projects canceled or put on hold
- Currently 12.5 million SF of office
  - 5.6 million Class A (44 percent)
  - 17.2% vacant
  - Majority in eastern part of downtown(9 of 10 largest private office projects)
  - Largest employers: M&I Bank, Roundy's Supermarkets, We Energies, Northwestern Mutual, AT&T, The Marcus Corporation, US Bank
  - New office planned for Pabst Brewery

# Who are the customers?

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

## Types of Customers

- Each type of customer is important and contributes to total retail

dollars spent in downtown

- Visitors
- Employees
- Residents

*80-85% of  
sales support  
from local  
customers*

## Employee Market

- 54,000 white collar in downtown (BID)
- 24,000 blue collar in downtown (BID)
- White collar employees are target market - capacity to spend money
- Estimated \$134 potential restaurant and retail expenditures per week per employee
- Third Ward employees are potential customer, but less frequent than BID area

## Residential Market

- Assessed and determined residential market trade areas
- Utilized country geographies
- Primary and Secondary Trade Areas
- Combined trade areas
  - 1.4 million residents
  - 570,000 households

## Visitor Market

- 1.5 million visitors annually (Greater Milwaukee)
- Not the “make-or-break” retail market
- Out-of-town visitors tend to be convention-based
- Milwaukee’s museums and attractions draw local/regional visitors – Wisconsin, Chicago
- Regional tourists: Chicago, Fox Valley
- Historic Third Ward, popular destination
- 3,300 hotel rooms at 63% occupancy



# Residential Trade Areas

downtown

WORKS

## Primary Trade Area (PTA)

### Standard Map

Prepared for Downtown Works  
December 9, 2008



## Secondary Trade Area (STA)

### Standard Map

Prepared for Downtown Works  
January 5, 2009





# Residential Trade Areas

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Many factors impact trade area (i.e. competitive retail centers, access, demographics)
- Potential and goal to improve downtown retail conditions
- Determined the trade area with sufficient spending potential to support improved retail conditions
- Based upon Merchandise Mix Plan's being in place
- Based on market realities (i.e. propensity to travel or spend)
- Always changing

## Primary Trade Area

- Likely frequent customers
- Base of market support
- More dense than STA

### Primary Trade Area

	2008	2013
Population	938,490	959,434
Households	386,210	398,105
Household Size	2.43	2.41
Avg HH Income	\$62,799	\$74,294

## Secondary Trade Area

- Less frequent customers, nevertheless important
- Attractive income levels
- Retailers must make the distance worth it

### Secondary Trade Area

	2008	2013
Population	476,999	496,523
Households	183,461	193,001
Household Size	2.6	2.6
Avg HH Income	\$105,012	\$132,174

# Residents...Beyond the Numbers

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- The types of person and household lifestyles are as important as demographics
  - Jobs and education level
  - Preferred activities and spending habits
  - Stage of life
- Psychographic “Lifestyle Tapestry” Segmentation
  - Analytic tool, well-respected industry resource
  - Cross-tabulates various statistics including: age, income, race, gender, home-ownership, household size, etc.
  - 65 different segmentation groups
- Refines trade areas into “target market groups”
- Impacts Merchandise Mix Plan

*Prosperous Empty Nesters = Williams Sonoma*

*In Style = Anthropologie*

*Metro City Edge = Wal-Mart*

*National chains used solely as examples to convey type of merchandise, DW understands Anthropologie is present in the Third Ward and Wal-Mart is not ideal for downtown*

# PTA Psychographics: Target Market

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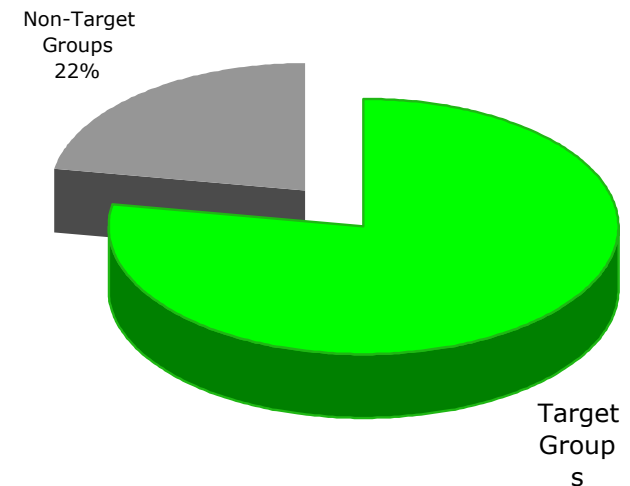
W O R K S

**This is your Target Market in the PTA**

**Target Market further refined - “most desirable” customers highlighted**

Category	Percent	Households	Population
Great Expectations	8.2%	31,669	76,956
Rustbelt Traditions	7.7%	29,738	72,264
Metro City Edge	7.7%	29,738	72,264
Main Street USA	6.6%	25,490	61,940
City Commons	6.2%	23,945	58,186
Cozy and Comfortable	5.7%	22,014	53,494
Old and Newcomers	5.5%	21,242	51,617
Retirement Communities	4.5%	17,379	42,232
Metro Renters	4.5%	17,379	42,232
Metropolitans	4.5%	17,379	42,232
In Style	2.5%	9,655	23,462
Sophisticated Squires	2.3%	8,883	21,585
Prosperous Empty Nesters	1.8%	6,952	16,893
Midlife Junction	1.7%	6,566	15,954
College Towns	1.6%	6,179	15,016
Aspiring Young Families	0.9%	3,476	8,446
Milk and Cookies	0.9%	3,476	8,446
Young and Restless	0.7%	2,703	6,569
Wealthy Seaboard Suburbs	0.7%	2,703	6,569
Connoisseurs	0.7%	2,703	6,569
Pleasant-ville	0.5%	1,931	4,692
Enterprising Professionals	0.5%	1,931	4,692
Suburban Splendor	0.5%	1,931	4,692
Top Rung	0.4%	1,545	3,754
Up and Coming Families	0.4%	1,545	3,754
Trendsetters	0.2%	772	1,877
Laptops and Lates	0.2%	772	1,877
Urban Chic	0.2%	772	1,877
<b>Total Target Groups</b>	<b>77.8%</b>	<b>300,471</b>	<b>730,145</b>

**Target Customer Psychographic Groups vs. Non-Target, Primary Trade Area**



# PTA: “Most Desirable” Customers

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- While all residents in the Target Market are potential downtown customers some are “most desirable”
- Can not merchandise to all groups - focus on “most desirable” customers
- Five of the most populated “most desirable” customer groups **total**

**221,000 people**

## 1. Main Street USA

- “All-American” suburban households, with two kids
- White-collar middle management jobs \$65,000 range
- Take pride in and maintain houses themselves
- Tend to watch spending, but will indulge

## 2. Old and Newcomers

- Young white-collar couples
- Unencumbered and flexible lifestyles
- Enjoy shopping, but do not spend exorbitantly

## 3. Metro Renters

- As renters, do not have large home expenditures
- Spend on themselves (i.e clothes, technology products, etc.) ; few children present

## 4. Metropolitans

- Active urban lifestyle, prefer city living
- 75% have attended college

## 5. In Style

- Live in suburbs, but prefer cities
- Mix of prosperous married couples and singles
- Computer savvy, health conscious, active
- Spend money on shopping, travel, entertainment (i.e sports tickets)

**All of “most desirable” groups  
total:**

**-311,000 people**

**-128,000 households**

# PTA and STA Psychographics: Target Market

d o w n t o w n

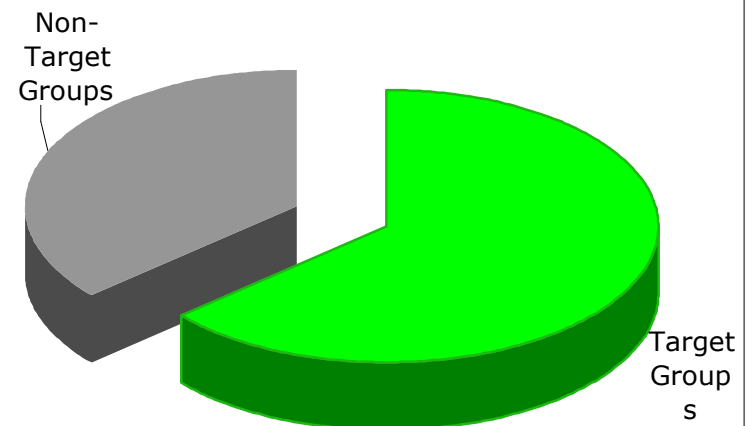
W O R K S

**This is your targeted market (Primary and Secondary Trade Area combined)**

Category	Percent	Households	Population
Main Street USA	7.5%	42,725	106,162
Sophisticated Squires	6.7%	38,168	94,838
Cozy and Comfortable	5.8%	33,041	82,098
In Style	5.7%	32,471	80,683
Rustbelt Traditions	5.3%	30,193	75,021
Old and Newcomers	4.70%	26,775	66,528
Retirement Communities	3.90%	22,217	55,204
Metro Renters	3.10%	17,660	43,880
Prosperous Empty Nesters	2.50%	14,242	35,387
Metropolitans	2.50%	14,242	35,387
Suburban Splendor	2.40%	13,672	33,972
Aspiring Young Families	1.70%	9,684	24,063
Boomburbs	1.60%	9,115	22,648
Midlife Junction	1.30%	7,406	18,401
Up and Coming Families	1.20%	6,836	16,986
College Towns	1.10%	6,266	15,570
Young and Restless	1.10%	6,266	15,570
Connoisseurs	1.00%	5,697	14,155
Enterprising Professionals	0.90%	5,127	12,739
Milk and Cookies	0.60%	3,418	8,493
Wealthy Seaboard Suburbs	0.50%	2,848	7,077
Urban Chic	0.50%	2,848	7,077
Top Rung	0.50%	2,848	7,077
Family Foundations	0.40%	2,279	5,662
Pleasant-ville	0.40%	2,279	5,662
Trendsetters	0.20%	1,139	2,831
Midland Crowd	0.20%	1,139	2,831
Laptops and Lattes	0.10%	570	1,415
Silver and Gold	0.10%	570	1,415
Sun Seekers	0.10%	570	1,415
<b>Total Target Groups</b>	<b>63.60%</b>	<b>362,311</b>	<b>900,251</b>

**Target Market further refined - highlighted "most desirable"**

**Target Customer Psychographic Groups vs. Non-Target, Primary Trade Area**





# PTA and STA: “Most Desirable” Customers

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Some potential downtown customers are “most desirable”
- Several categories described in Primary Market slide
- Five of the most populated “most desirable” customer groups **total 392,000 people**

## 1. Main Street USA

- *Described above*

## 2. Sophisticated Squires

- Well-educated, median income of \$80k
- Like culinary equipment (i.e. Williams Sonoma)
- Active families (visit museums, zoos, etc.)

## 3. In Style

- *Described above*

## 4. Old and Newcomers

- *Described above*

## 5. Metro Renters

- *Described above*

All of the “most desirable” groups total:  
-630,000 people  
-254,000 households

# Supportable SF of Retail

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Assessed total expenditure potential by different customer groups
  - Residents (by households): Downtown and Trade Areas
  - Employees
  - Visitors
- Estimated the percentage of total expenditures downtown can capture
  - \$607 million annually across all customer categories
- Translated expenditures to supportable SF utilizing estimated sales per SF
- Estimated support for 1.5 million SF of retail downtown
- 1.1 million SF of street-front retail currently exists, leaving 400,000 SF of supportable space
- Does not mean support for BUILDING 400,000 SF of retail
  - Existing vacant space that should be filled first 148,000 SF
  - Existing non-retail space that should be retail (conversion) 229,000 SF
- BEFORE building more space, consider:
  - Existing retail space in Third Ward (not part of 1.1 million SF existing)
  - Does not include interior spaces (Grand Avenue, other projects)

# What does this all mean?

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Market support exists to recruit retailers to downtown Milwaukee
- The Target Market consists of households and employees that will be attractive to retailers
  - Educated and active
  - Disposable income
  - Desire to spend and dine out
- Recruit retail to fill **EXISTING SPACE**
- Create momentum and catalysts by tenanting existing space in focused areas and promoting multi-use projects in infill locations
- Increasing downtown residents will be an important *growing* market
  - Empty Nesters
  - Young Urban Professionals
- White-collar workforce will contribute, especially to food and beverage

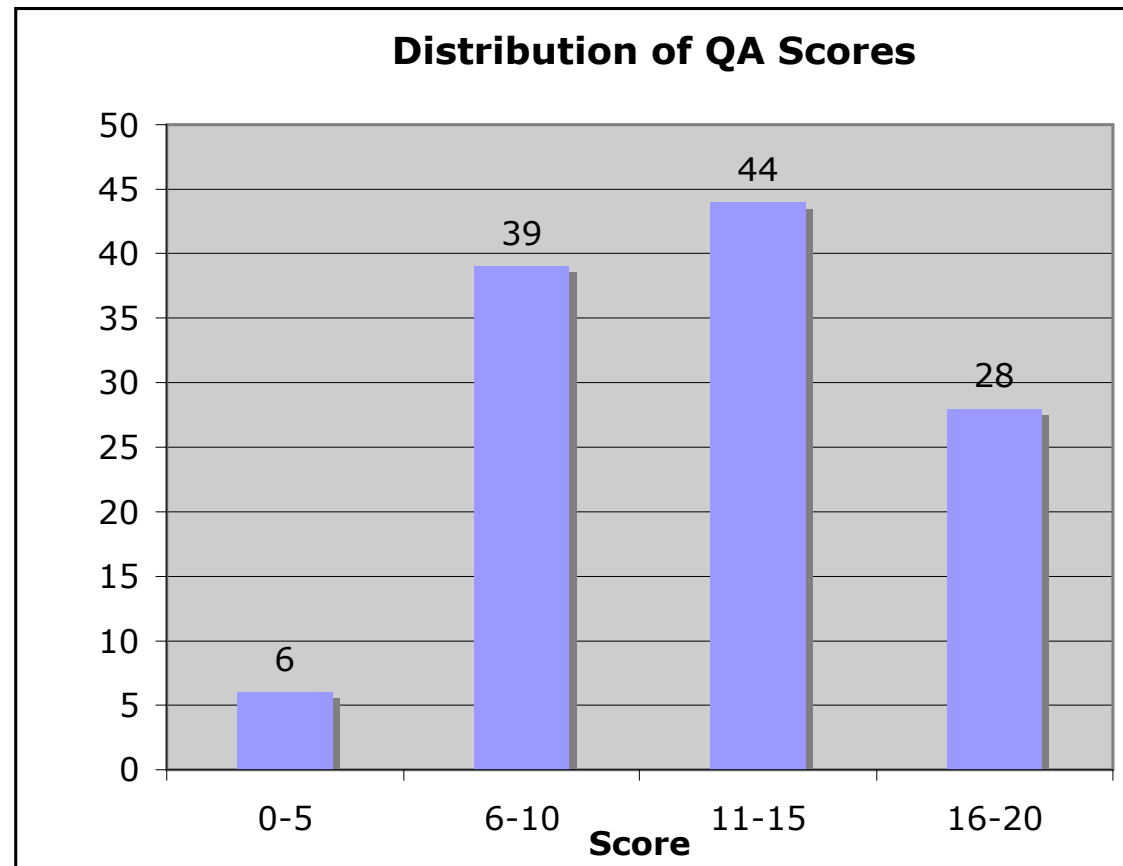
**APPROPRIATE MERCHANDISE MIX MUST BE IN PLACE TO CAPITALIZE ON MARKET POTENTIAL**

# Existing Mix - Qualitative Analysis

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Provides strengths and weaknesses of current retail mix
  - Tool for Retail Recruiter
  - 210 properties
  - 74% (155) were evaluated as restaurants, retailers, consumer services
    - Maintenance, Façade, Signage, Display, Interior
  - High score = 20
  - Low score = 5
  - Approx 36 vacancies, 17%
- 5 properties scored a 5
  - 5 properties scored a 20 (restaurants)
  - 3 of 19 high score properties (17+) were retailers
  - 45 spaces are candidates for recapture, 10 or below



# Existing Mix - Retail Sampling

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W O R K S

## *Challenged retail storefronts*



## *Good retail storefronts*



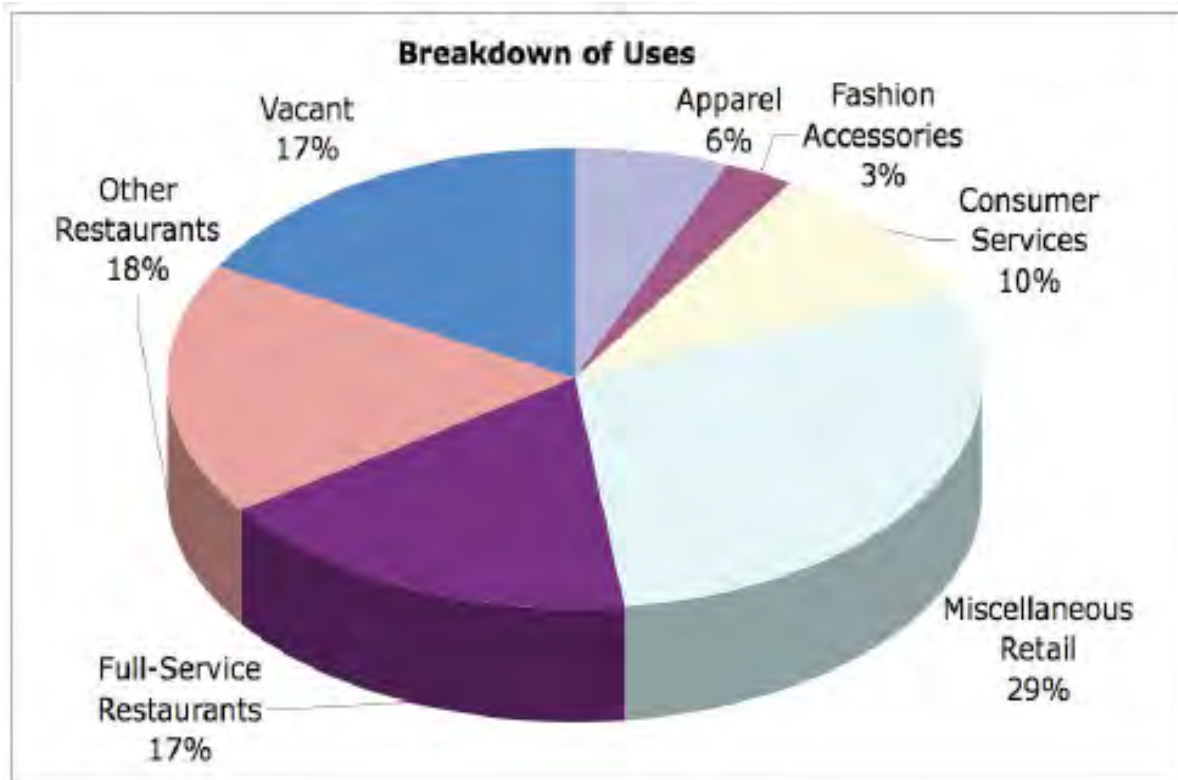


# Existing Mix - Qualitative Analysis

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- 35% of mix comprised of restaurants
  - Full-service restaurant are well represented
  - There is enough fast food/quick service on primary retail streets
- Apparel and fashion accessories needs to grow, only 9%
- Vacancy rate is high



# Stakeholder Interviews: Common Threads

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- *Interviewed over 25 stakeholders (retailers, residents, workers, city officials)*
- *Comments are thoughts and ideas of interviewees*
- **Lack of retail, especially east of river (place to start) and especially apparel, home furnishings**
- **There needs to be defined retail district in downtown (marketable identity)**
- **Lack of connections (Third Ward to Downtown) - around downtown**
- **Business community and government need to invest in downtown**
- Heavily recruit more offices and headquarters, retail impacts quality of life factors
- Grand Avenue is a challenge, turn inside out (Bay Shore), location for big-box, do not be like mall
- Sense of optimism rooted in residential growth and emergence of Third Ward
- Employees are important part of existing downtown sales
- Best retail streets:
  - Milwaukee between Mason and Wisconsin, but lacks retail more restaurant and entertainment
  - Brady Street and Third Ward
- Important for retailers to be downtown because variety of customers (i.e visitors) and accessible (only 30 minutes from anywhere in market)
- Rivalry between East and West side, need more retailers on East side
- Upscale stores do not want to be on Wisconsin now
- Fill gaps, such as parking lots (Mason, Wells)
- Better retail would be catalyst for live theater performances
- Downtown Milwaukee very unknown, put cool local marketing firms on this task

# Stakeholder Interviews

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Target will save downtown
  - Many already in the market, 13 stores in market
- Need stores that pay downtown rents (i.e. Anthropologie and Urban Outfitters)
  - *Fast food tenants pay the highest rents: raises rental rate average for downtown*
- Create urban entertainment such as ESPN Zone and cinema
  - *Need uses as active or more during the day*
  - *Entertainment use geared toward evening, do not help retail*
- Parking is a problem
  - *Often perception, not a reality*
  - *People willing to pay for good retail mix*
- Park East will compete with downtown for tenants
  - *Park East not in the core*
- Transit hubs are good places for retail and restaurants
  - *For convenience and impulse purchases*
- Retail will benefit from convention business
  - *Really benefits restaurant and hospitality business*

# Challenges for Retail Revitalization

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Need for storefront renovations
- Monolithic office architecture at pedestrian scale
- Too many surface parking lots and garages on potentially major retail streets
- Multiple ownership of retail spaces
- Storefront and signage design
- Many gaps - lack of contiguous retail
- Retail streets interrupted by large non-retail uses (Old World Third)
- Enticing people to reopen and renovate old theaters
- Lack of double-sided retail both sides of street (Water Street and Jefferson at Cathedral Sq.)
- Wisconsin is not pedestrian friendly - (i.e. width of East and number of buses East and West)
- Some Milwaukee residents are too humble about their city (Milwaukee is great!)

BEFORE



AFTER

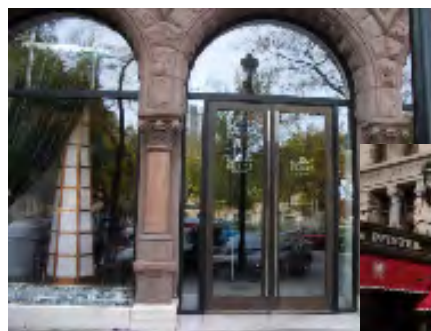


# Strengths for Retail Revitalization

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Good existing building stock
- Active cultural and arts scene
- Milwaukee Bucks play downtown
- White-collar employee base
- Sufficient residential target market
- Active and supportive BID 21, plays major role, promote downtown
- Grand Avenue, the largest retail component in the study area, has professional leasing staff
- Proven success in Historic Third Ward
- Successful restaurants
- Existing successful stores in downtown
- Public Market on Broadway close to downtown
- Milwaukee residents are proud of city
- Beautiful city; River is an asset to be leveraged





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## III. Retail Recruitment and Implementation

# Principles for Merchandise Mix Plan

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Downtown is where a city innovates
- Cultural institutions and diversity are anchored in downtowns
- Historically the city's retail scene was anchored in downtown
- Downtowns are reviving from decline in 1970's and 1980's
- Street-oriented retail is the focus
  - Inherent nature of cities and towns
  - Visible and accessible
  - Proven as successful/optimal format for urban retailing
  - Desire of “creative class” and your target market
- Can not program each space for a potential use
  - Downtowns do not have single ownership like a mall
  - Each property is unique: design, fixtures (i.e kitchens) , lease terms, size etc.
  - DW addresses during Implementation with Retail Recruiter

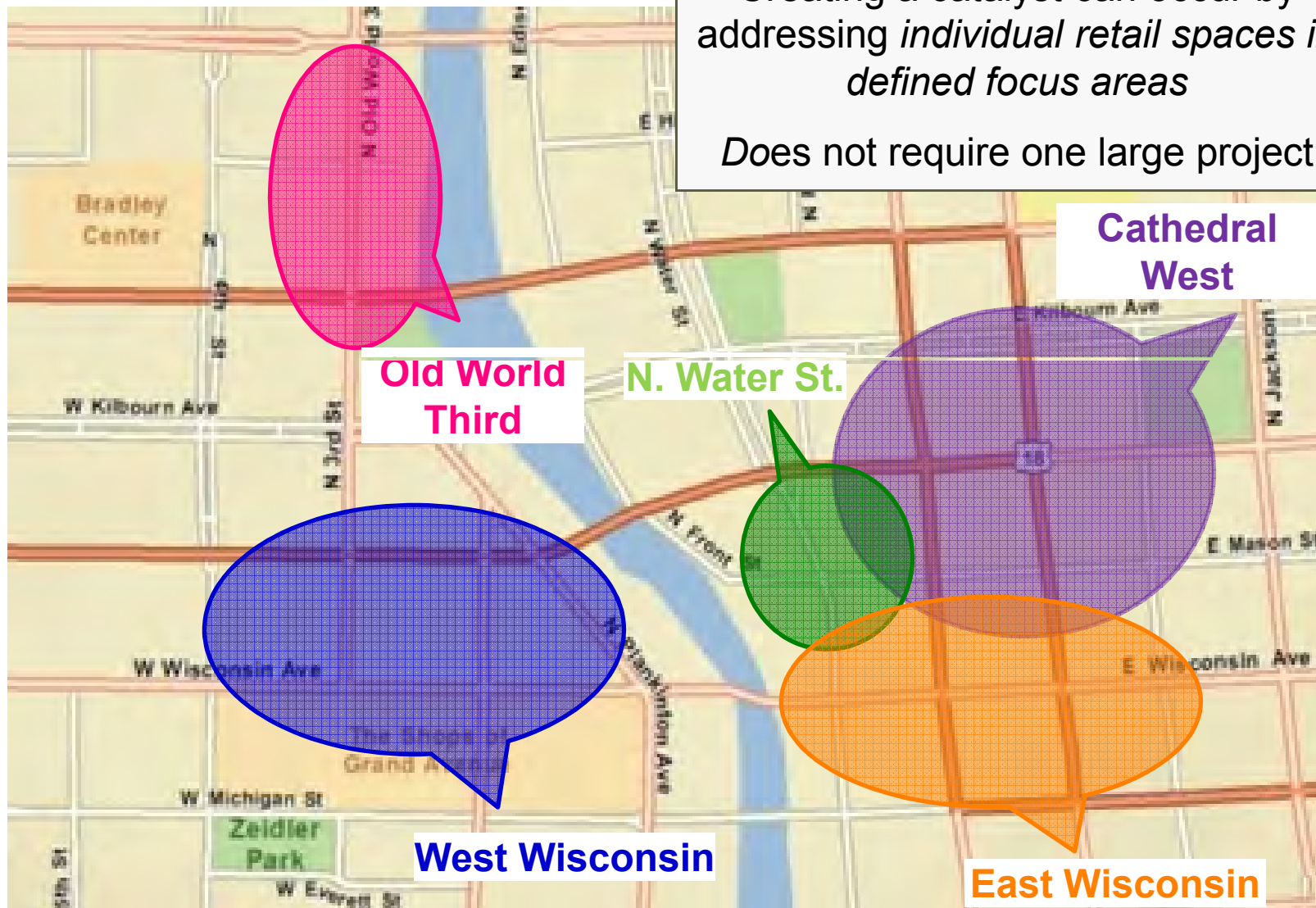
# Merchandise Mix Plan: Focus Areas

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

Creating a catalyst can occur by addressing *individual retail spaces in defined focus areas*

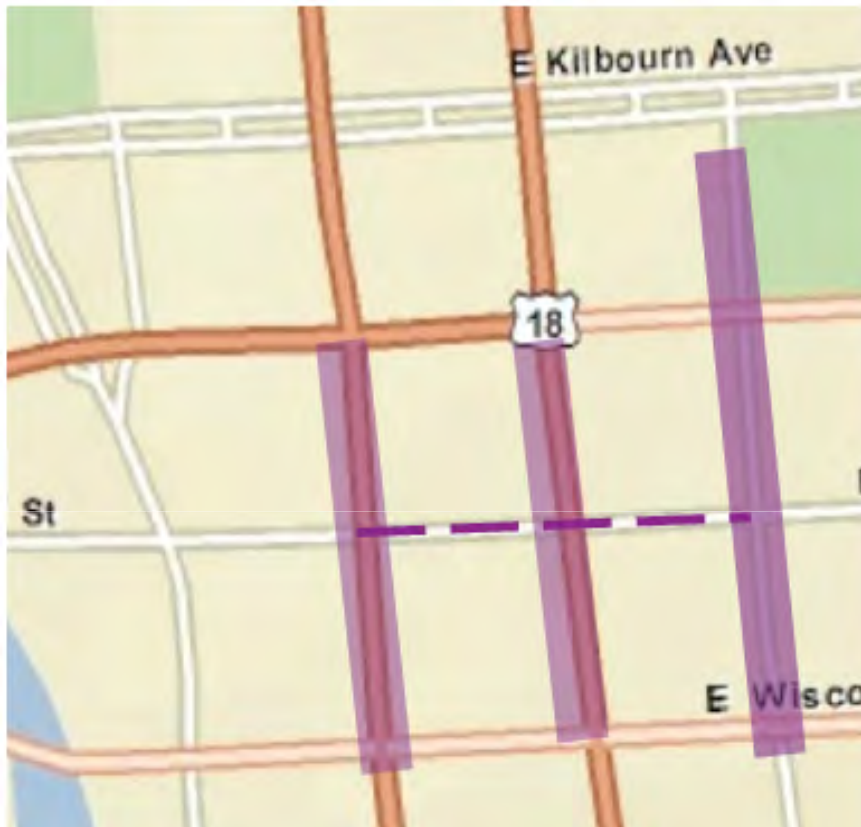
Does not require one large project



# Merchandise Mix Plan: Cathedral West

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S



- Jefferson Street
- Milwaukee Street
- Broadway Street
- Mason Street (cross street)

## Why here?

- Healthy mix of downtown's better restaurants
- Prospects could move in TODAY
- Several hotels present (Pfister and Metro)
- Part of Central Business District
- Proximity to lake area residents
- Accessible to visitors

# Merchandise Mix Plan: Cathedral West

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

## **Jefferson St.** - Kilbourn to Wisconsin

- Existing retailers and restaurants
  - Apparel, home boutiques (George Watt)
  - Excellent dining (Elsa's, Mason St. Grill)

## **Milwaukee St.** - Mason to Wisconsin

- Great collection of restaurants
- Some interesting retail (Vespa Store and Planet Bead Gallery)
- Could use more retail

## **Broadway St.** - Wells to Wisconsin

- Big connection to Historic Third Ward
- Need to make great

### Recruitment Targets

- Men's and Women's Apparel
  - Casual
  - Career
- Jewelry (fashion)
- Shoes
- Fashion accessories
- Home furnishings
- Gifts
- Art Galleries
- Enough restaurants (not high priority)



# Merchandise Mix Plan: East Wisconsin

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S



- East Wisconsin
- Water Street
- Broadway

## Why here?

- Wisconsin has been the traditional retail street
- The spine of downtown Milwaukee
- Density of office buildings



East Wisconsin Ave. (looking West)

# Merchandise Mix Plan: East Wisconsin

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

## East Wisconsin - Water to Jefferson

- Properties need renovation and improvement
- Focus on corner locations
- Recapture space

## Water - Wisconsin to Michigan

- Original buildings with good potential storefronts (east side)
- Really strengthen this block
- Parking garage is *real* challenge (west side)

## Broadway - Wisconsin to Michigan

- Infill development is potential long-term
- Ultimately, need contiguous connections
- **INTEGRAL ARTERY**
- Downtown & Historic Third Ward will benefit

### Merchandise Mix

- *Larger format spaces*
- Continue Apparel and include sports and active wear
- Furniture
- Design showrooms (floorings, fixtures)
- Continue galleries
- Appliance (i.e Viking, Bosch)
- Prepared foods/urban market



# Merchandise Mix Plan: North Water St.

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S



- Water Street - Wells to Wisconsin

## Why here?

- Cater to office market and theater visitors
- Many office buildings
- Storefronts not ideal for retail
- Retail that can relate to office uses

## Merchandise Mix

- Card/gift shop
- Florist
- Office Supplies
- Art Supplies
- Cafes
- Casual Dining
- Other services uses (not on corners)

# Merchandise Mix Plan: West Wisconsin

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S



- West Wisconsin
- Plankinton
- Wells
- Old World Third

## Why here?

- Has been traditional retail spine
- Convention Center
- Successful well-known restaurants (Capital Grill)



# Merchandise Mix Plan: West Wisconsin

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

## **West Wisconsin** - River to 4th

- *If* big-box were to locate downtown it should be here - on the street
- Great pedestrian scale
- Opportunity to re-use old theater

## **Plankinton** - Wisconsin to Wells

- Relates well to River
- Good location for restaurants, take advantage of waterfront

## **Old World Third**

- Part of Focus Area
- Should house overflow from Wisconsin and Plankinton

### Merchandise Mix

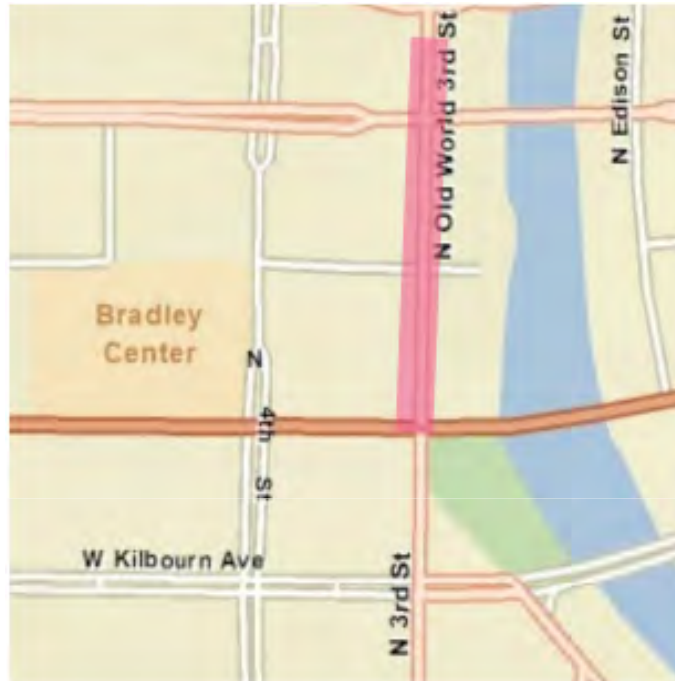
- Nordstrom's Rack (example)
  - Example big-box
  - Opening 10 stores 2009
  - Typically only do 1 store per market
  - Would attract other stores
- Sporting goods and equipment
- Sports and active wear
- Casual apparel
- Existing Walgreens, Office Max, Borders, Boston Store, TJ Maxx good street front uses



# Merchandise Mix Plan: Old World Third

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W O R K S



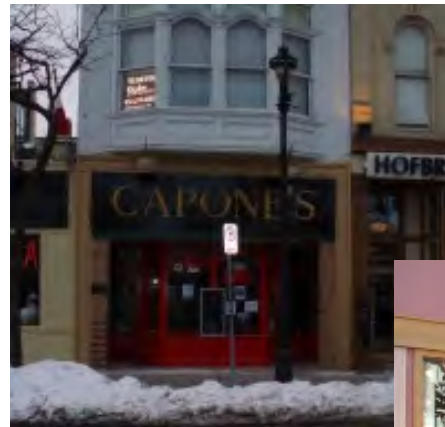
## Why here?

- Established with defined identity
- Organically grown and successful
- Ethnic unique food
- Doing okay as is
- Lacks connection to downtown
- Retail and restaurants will grow as Park East is developed

## • Old World Third

### Merchandise Mix

- Build on existing culture and identify
- Revisit for community-oriented retail as area is developed





# What not to recruit

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Fortunately, Downtown Milwaukee is not overpopulated with:
  - Nail salons
  - Fast food
  - Convenience stores (i.e., 7-Eleven)
  - Electronics
- Fast food appropriate for market, BUT not in ideal **retail** locations
- Amount of full service restaurants is sufficient
  - Typically start recruitment in this category, but already have...
  - Active substantial full-service restaurant scene
- Diversity of retail uses is underwhelming
- You can recruit almost anything for downtown
- Will not proactively target:
  - Full-service restaurants (already good base in place)
  - Drugstores
  - Convenience stores
  - Banks
  - Chain stores found in the suburbs

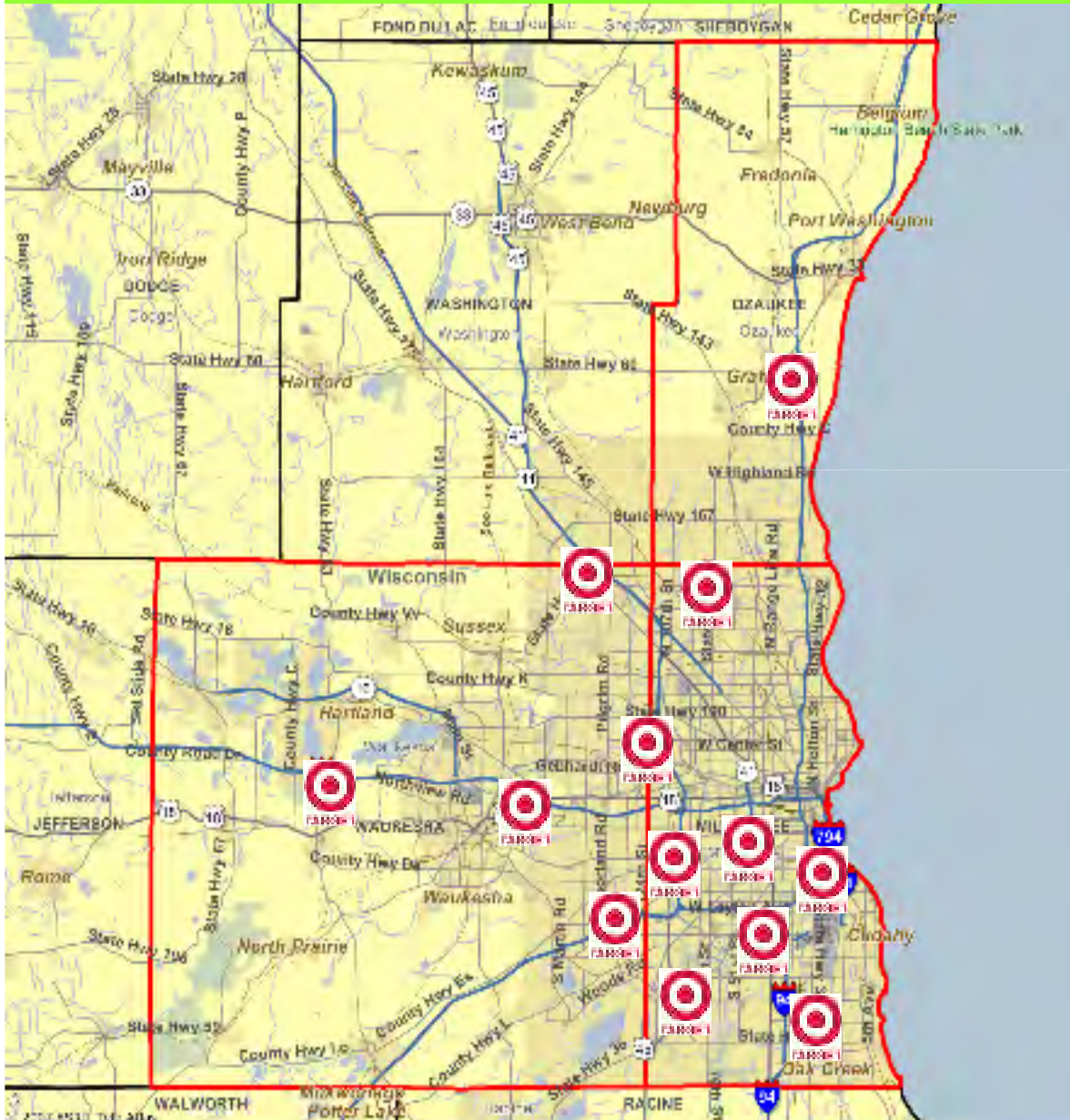
# What not to incentivize

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

Big-boxes  
frequently found  
in the market

13 Targets



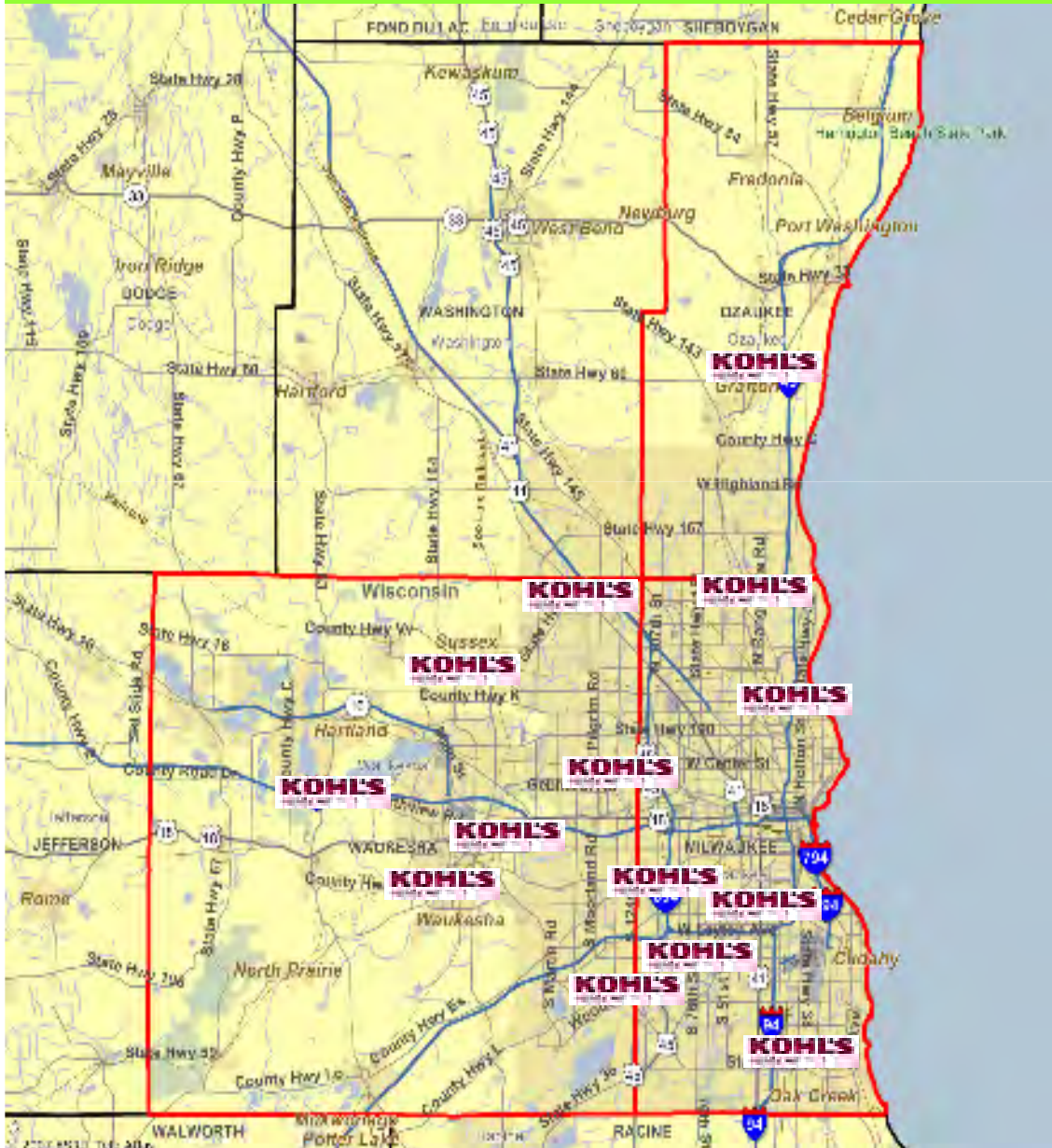
# What not to incentivize

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

Big-boxes  
frequently found  
in the market

14 Kohls





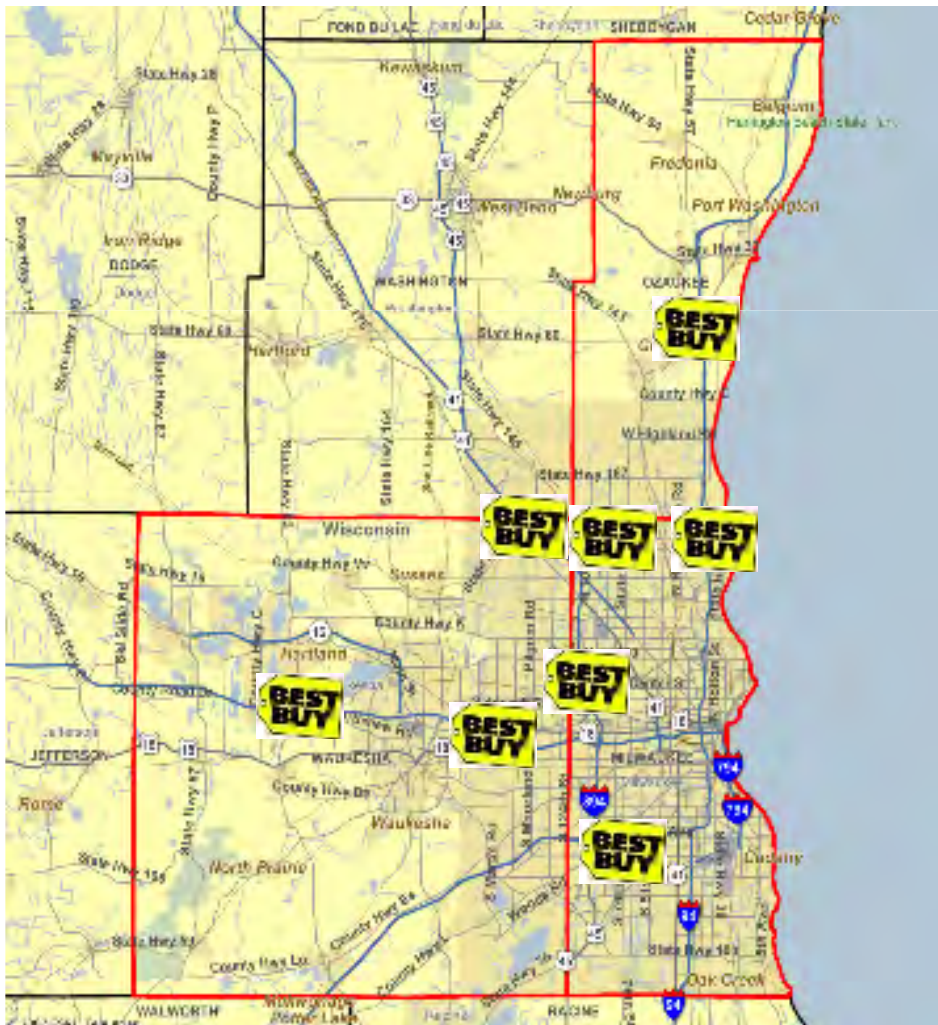
# What not to incentivize

downtown

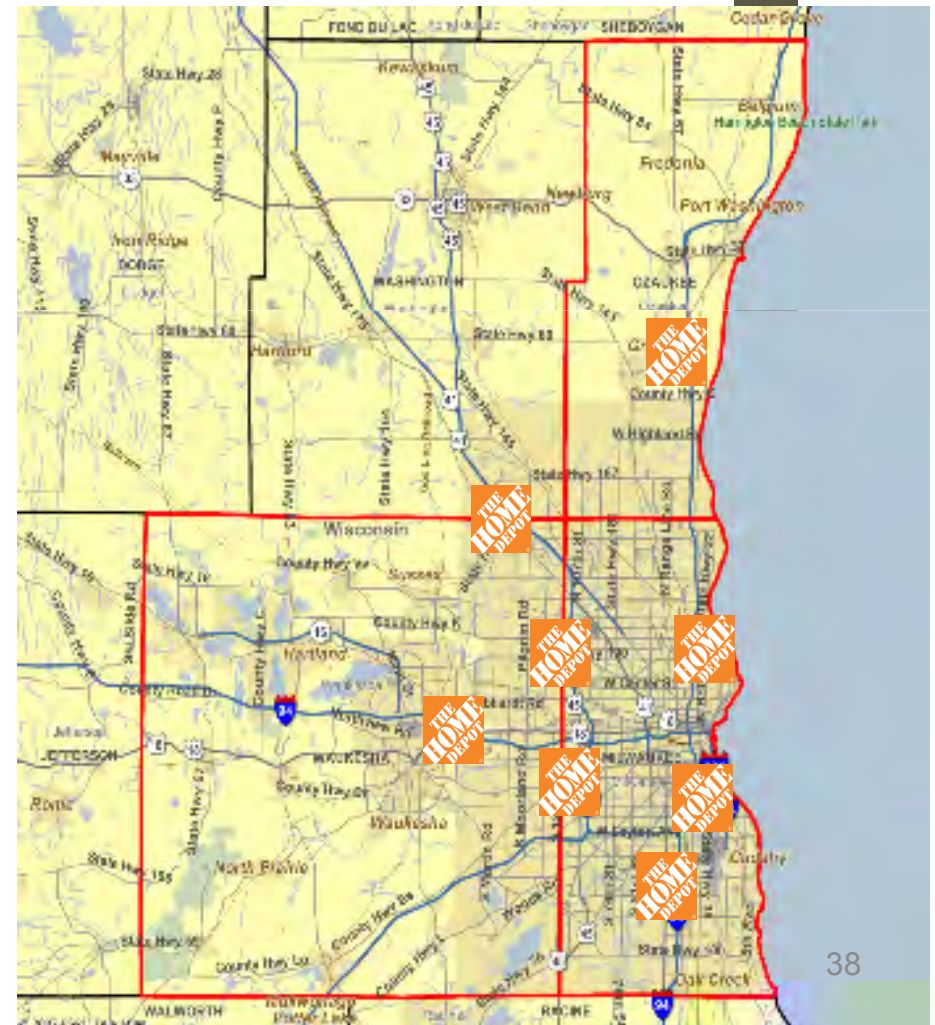
WORKS

Big-boxes frequently found in the market

8 Best Buy



8 Home Depots



# Location Factors

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Stores should be contiguous - - literally side-by-side
- Concentrated retail clusters create anchors and destinations
- Primary Retail Streets
  - Where retail concentration occurs
  - Customer can immediately understand – *SHOP HERE!*
  - Retailers selling goods (i.e. clothes, furniture, gifts)
  - Full-service restaurants (open lunch and dinner)
  - Should not be interrupted by non-retail uses (banks, offices, blank walls, parking decks)
- Secondary (side) Retail Streets
  - Consumer services (dry cleaning, tailor, shoe repair, salons)
  - Quick service food
  - Office or residential lobbies in mixed-use buildings with retail
- Will identify best opportunities once Implementation has commenced



# Design Factors

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Corners are very important
  - They provide the first impression of the street, setting the tone
  - Have good window displays, attractive storefronts
  - Should be built out to the side walk (right-of-way), or notched
- No arcades, plazas, or special features built into potential storefront area
  - Quality merchandise display and good storefront design should stand alone
- Unique, distinctive storefronts
  - Differentiated from adjacent storefronts and other uses above
- Avoid generic storefront designs, which are often by-product of storefront systems
  - New construction and mixed-use buildings are at high risk





# Design Factors

d o w n t o w n

W o r k s

## Generic Storefront Systems to Avoid



# Design Factors

d o w n t o w n

W o r k s

## Sample Unique, Distinct Storefronts



# Retail Recruitment Targets

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Downtown retailing and dining should be as varied as the people operating there
  - Be as different from suburbs as possible
  - Thrive on diversity and innovation
  - Ubiquitous chains are antithetical
- Merchandise can be chic (Zara or H&M) or classic (Brooks Brothers)
  - Both types are great for Downtown
  - Unique selection of local, regional, and national (hand-picked) stores
- Quality will always be important (does not mean expensive)
  - Hard to quantify or formalize
  - Taste, creativity, design, merchandising intuition
  - Qualified retail recruiter is critical in generating appropriate prospects



# Retail Recruitment Targets

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

## Great signage

- Succinct, colorful, attractive graphics, styled to fit character of storefront
- Should not state too much information (i.e. hours, website, number, name, merchandise, etc.)
- Succinct and not repetitive (name should be in 1 or 2 places at most)

What makes a great retailer?



# Retail Recruitment Targets

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

## Engaging window displays

- Should change every 2 or 3 weeks (great retailers change more frequently)
- Reflect merchandise sold



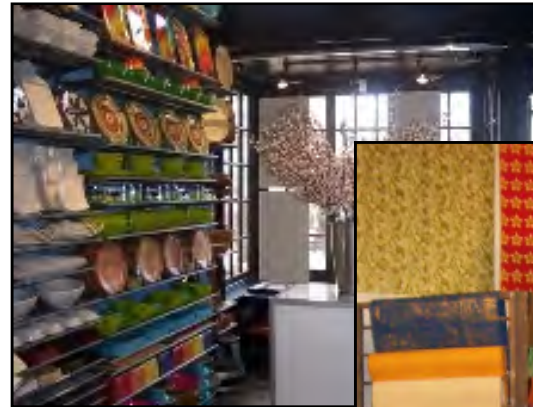


# Retail Recruitment Targets

works  
d o w n t o w n

## Proper interior merchandising

- Coordinated and organized (color, style, type)
- Inventory levels, neither cluttered nor sparse
- Merchandise selection, cohesive, but varied





# Table of Contents

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

I. Market Research and Strategic Assessment

II. Retail Strategy and Merchandise Mix Plan

III. Retail Recruitment and Implementation

I. Retail Recruiter

II. Timeline

III. Next Steps

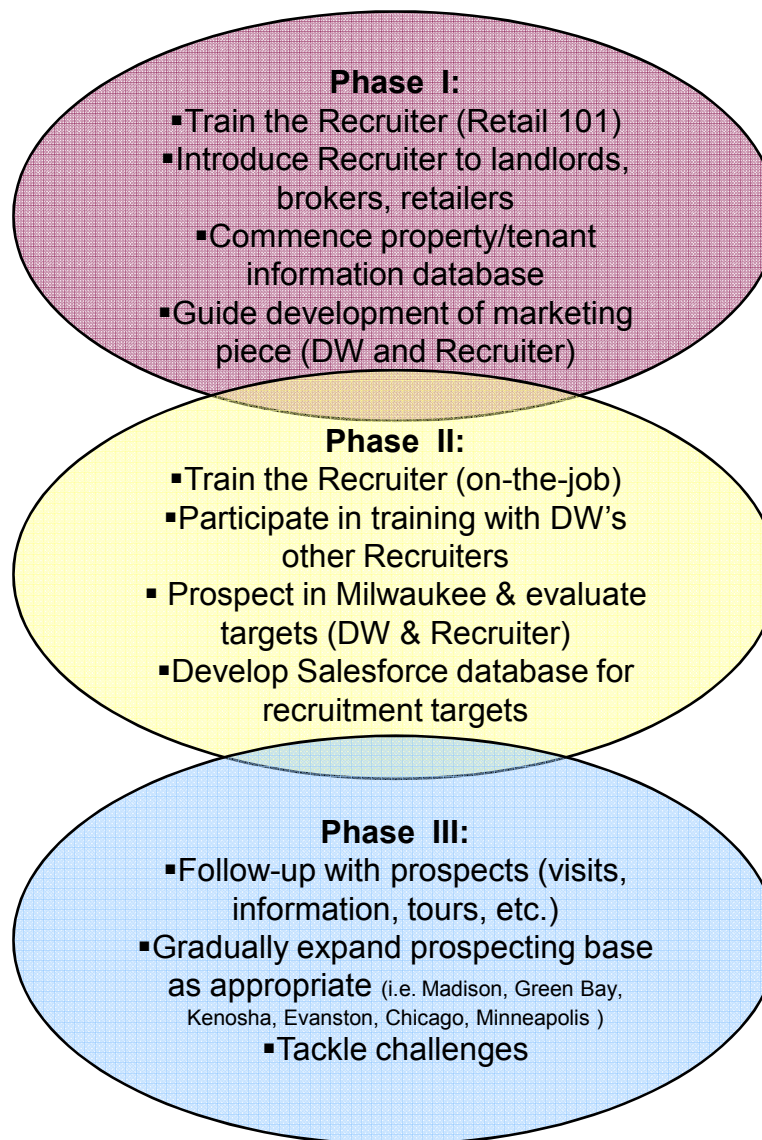
IV. Summary of Retail Catalysts

# Retail Recruiter

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Central component of the Implementation Program
  - Completed comprehensive hiring process
  - Milwaukee BID 21 Employee
  - Deanna Inniss, Feb. 2009 start
- Non-commissioned-based salary
- Brings viable prospects to landlords or real estate representatives - Match Maker
- Represents all properties in BID
- Ensures that great prospects are not lost
- Work with relevant agencies to facilitate store opening



# Recruitment Timeline

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Retail recruitment is a long-term effort
- Do not expect deals in first 6-12 months
- EXAMPLE: Austin, TX began July 2005, now seeing major changes
  - 700 leads, 77% from Recruiter cold-calling
  - 289 “qualified” leads
  - 20 signed deals (7% of qualified leads)
- No other way to get the retailers you need
- Current economic conditions
  - May influence prospective tenant reactions
  - Not permanent
  - Downtowns will come out stronger



# Implementation and Recruitment Steps

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Commenced Retail Recruiter training in Washington, DC
- Meet with key stakeholders and introduce Retail Recruiter
  - Landlords
  - Retailers
  - City officials
  - Other stakeholders
- Begin developing Retail Recruitment Marketing Piece
  - Graphic
  - Succinct
  - Eye-catching
- Explore incentives and grants for prospective retailers
  - Façade grants/storefront design guidelines
  - Forgivable loan program
- **Prospect, Prospect, Prospect**

# Summary of Retail Catalysts

d o w n t o w n

W O R K S

- Recruit retail consistent with Merchandise Mix Plan
  - Each deal should leverage next one
- Improve connections to Historic Third Ward (especially Broadway and Water)
- Infill gaps with mixed-use developments only
- Narrow East Wisconsin to make more pedestrian friendly
- Reduce buses on East and West Wisconsin
- Renovate and reopen Grand Theater
  - Arts screen could serve as great anchor
- Prohibit, through zoning ,non-retail uses at ground level and sky bridges
  - Negative impact on retail
  - Des Moines and Minneapolis (sky bridges hindered retail success)
- Create retail design guidelines authored by retail architect/designer